

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4077

To authorize the Secretary of State to pay a reward to combat transnational organized crime and for information concerning foreign nationals wanted by international criminal tribunals, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 17, 2012

Mr. ROYCE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of State to pay a reward to combat transnational organized crime and for information concerning foreign nationals wanted by international criminal tribunals, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Department of State
5 Rewards Program Update and Technical Corrections Act
6 of 2012”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Department of State’s existing rewards
2 programs permit the payment of reward for informa-
3 tion leading to the arrest or conviction of—

4 (A) individuals who have committed, or at-
5 tempted or conspired to commit, certain acts of
6 international terrorism;

7 (B) individuals who have committed, or at-
8 tempted or conspired to commit, certain nar-
9 cotics-related offenses; and

10 (C) individuals who have been indicted by
11 certain international criminal tribunals.

12 (2) The Department of State considers the re-
13 wards program to be “one of the most valuable as-
14 sets the U.S. Government has in the fight against
15 international terrorism.”. Since the program’s incep-
16 tion in 1984, the United States has rewarded over
17 60 people who provided actionable information that,
18 according to the Department of State, prevented
19 international terrorist attacks or helped convict indi-
20 viduals involved in terrorist attacks.

21 (3) The program has been credited with pro-
22 viding information in several high-profile cases, in-
23 cluding the arrest of Ramzi Yousef, who was con-
24 victed in the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Cen-
25 ter, the deaths of Uday and Qusay Hussein, who

1 United States military forces located and killed in
2 Iraq after receiving information about their loca-
3 tions, and the arrests or deaths of several members
4 of the Abu Sayyaf group, believed to be responsible
5 for the kidnappings and deaths of Americans and
6 Filipinos in the Philippines.

7 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
8 gress that the rewards program of the Department of
9 State should be expanded in order to—

10 (1) address the growing threat to important
11 United States interests from transnational criminal
12 activity, such as intellectual property rights piracy,
13 money laundering, trafficking in persons, arms traf-
14 ficking, and cybercrime; and

15 (2) target other individuals indicted by inter-
16 national, hybrid, or mixed tribunals for genocide,
17 war crimes, or crimes against humanity.

18 **SEC. 3. ENHANCED REWARDS AUTHORITY.**

19 Section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities
20 Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (a)(2), by inserting “serious
22 violations of international humanitarian law,
23 transnational organized crime,” after “international
24 narcotics trafficking,”;

25 (2) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
2 by striking “Attorney General” and inserting
3 “heads of other relevant departments or agen-
4 cies”;

5 (B) in paragraphs (4) and (5), by striking
6 “paragraph (1), (2), or (3)” each place it ap-
7 pears and inserting “paragraph (1), (2), (3),
8 (8), or (9)”;

9 (C) in paragraph (6)—

10 (i) by inserting “or transnational or-
11 ganized crime group” after “terrorist orga-
12 nization”; and

13 (ii) by striking “or” at the end;

14 (D) in paragraph (7)—

15 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
16 graph (A), by striking “, including the use
17 by the organization of illicit narcotics pro-
18 duction or international narcotics traf-
19 ficking” and inserting “or transnational
20 organized crime group, including the use
21 by such organization or group of illicit nar-
22 cotics production or international narcotics
23 trafficking”;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
2 “or transnational organized crime” after
3 “international terrorism”; and

4 (iii) in subparagraph (B)—

5 (I) by inserting “or transnational
6 organized crime group” after “ter-
7 rorist organization”; and

8 (II) by striking the period at the
9 end and inserting a semicolon; and

10 (E) by adding at the end the following new
11 paragraphs:

12 “(8) the arrest or conviction in any country of
13 any individual for participating in, primarily outside
14 the United States, transnational organized crime;

15 “(9) the arrest or conviction in any country of
16 any individual conspiring to participate in or at-
17 tempting to participate in transnational organized
18 crime; or

19 “(10) the arrest or conviction in any country,
20 or the transfer to or conviction by an international
21 criminal tribunal (including a hybrid or mixed tri-
22 bunal), of any foreign national accused of war
23 crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide, as de-
24 fined under the statute of such tribunal.”; and

25 (3) in subsection (k)—

1 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and
2 (6) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively; and
3 (B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
4 following new paragraphs:

5 “(5) TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME.—The
6 term ‘transnational organized crime’ means—

7 “(A) racketeering activity (as such term is
8 defined in section 1961 of title 18, United
9 States Code) that involves at least one jurisdic-
10 tion outside the United States; or

11 “(B) any other criminal offense punishable
12 by a term of imprisonment of at least four
13 years under Federal, State, or local law that in-
14 volves at least one jurisdiction outside the
15 United States and that is intended to obtain,
16 directly or indirectly, a financial or other mate-
17 rial benefit.

18 “(6) TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME
19 GROUP.—The term ‘transnational organized crime
20 group’ means a group of persons that includes one
21 or more citizens of a foreign country, exists for a pe-
22 riod of time, and acts in concert with the aim of en-
23 gaging in transnational organized crime.”.

1 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.**

2 Section 36(e)(1) of the State Department Basic Au-
3 thorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended by
4 striking “The Secretary shall authorize a reward of
5 \$50,000,000 for the capture or death or information lead-
6 ing to the capture or death of Osama bin Laden.”.

7 **SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

8 Nothing in this Act shall be construed as authorizing
9 the use of activity precluded under the American
10 Servicemembers’ Protection Act of 2002 (Public Law
11 107–206).

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